

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a computer system, wherein the computer system comprises an application client, a first application server configured to process requests of the application client, a second application server configured to process requests of the application client, and a database ~~accessible~~ shared by the first and second application servers, the method comprising:

detecting, by the first application server, that the shared database is not accessible by the first application server;

receiving, by the first application server, a request from the application client to the first application server;

forwarding, by the first application server, the request to the second application server; while the shared database is not accessible by the first application server;

receiving, by the second application server, the request from the first application server;

accessing, by the second application server, the shared database;

generating, by the second application server, a response to the request;  
forwarding, by the second application server, the response to the first application server while the shared database is not accessible by the first application server;  
receiving, by the first application server, the response from the second application server; and  
forwarding, by the first application server, the response to the application client.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein  
the response is received, from the second application server, into an input queue of the first application server.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising  
transferring the response from the input queue of the first application server to an output queue of the first application server.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein  
the response is received, from the second application server, into an output queue of the first application server.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein  
the second application server generates the response to the request  
using the database while the database is not accessible by the first  
application server.
20. (Currently Amended) A computer ~~hardware~~ system, comprising:  
a first application server configured to process requests from an  
application client;  
a second application server configured to process requests from the  
application client; and  
a database ~~accessible~~ shared by the first application server and the  
second application server, wherein  
the first application server configured to  
detect that the shared database is not accessible by the  
first application server,  
receive a request from the application client to the first  
application server,  
forward the request to the second application server; while the  
shared database is not accessible by the first application server,

receive a response, to the request, from the second application server,

forward the response to the application client, and  
the second application server configured to

receive the request from the first application client,  
accessing the shared database;

generating the response to the request, and

forwarding the response to the first application server while the  
shared database is not accessible by the first application server.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~hardware~~ system of claim 20,  
wherein

the first application server includes an input queue into which the  
response is received from the second application server.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~hardware~~ system of claim 21,  
wherein

the first application server includes an output queue, and  
the first application server is further configured to transfer the  
response from the input queue to the output queue.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~hardware~~ system of claim 20, wherein

the first application server includes an output queue in which the response is received from the second application server.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~hardware~~ system of claim 20, wherein

the second application server generates the response to the request using the database while the database is not accessible by the first application server.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer-readable ~~stored~~ storage medium having stored therein computer usable program code for operating a computer system, wherein the computer system comprises an application client, a first application server configured to process requests of the application client, a second application server configured to process requests of the application client, and a database ~~aeessible~~ shared by the first and second application servers, the computer

usable program code, which when executed by the computer system, causes the computer system to perform:

detecting, by the first application server, that the shared database is not accessible by the first application server;

receiving, by the first application server, a request from the application client to the first application server;

forwarding, by the first application server, the request to the second application server; while the shared database is not accessible by the first application server

receiving, by the second application server, the request from the first application server;

accessing, by the second application server, the shared database;

generating, by the second application server, a response to the request;

forwarding, by the second application server, the response to the first application server while the shared database is not accessible by the first application server;

receiving, by the first application server, the response from the second application server; and

forwarding, by the first application server, the response to the application client.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 25,  
wherein

the response is received, from the second application server, into an  
input queue of the first application server.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26,  
wherein

the response is transferred from the input queue of the first application  
server to an output queue of the first application server.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26,  
wherein

the response is received, from the second application server, into an  
output queue of the first application server.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 25,  
wherein

the second application server generates the response to the request using the database while the database is not accessible by the first application server.